



Increased Electric Dependence and Resilience: A Match Made in Heaven or a Train Wreck Ahead?



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The United States Grid Security Model

- EPACT 2005: Congress subjects all 'users of the bulk electric system' to mandatory reliability standards, including cybersecurity standards
- Standards set by industry organization (NERC) but subject to approval by the federal regulator (FERC)
- Standards initial focus was reliability but have expanded to physical and cyber-security
 - CIP 14 Critical Transmission Facilities
 - Cybersecurity Plans
 - Supply Chain Management





The United States Grid Security Model (continued)

- Electric Distribution System Security: State regulated, largely left to individual utility.
- Gas Pipeline Infrastructure: Voluntary industry-driven guidelines, regulation by Transportation Security Administration
- Tri-furcated Model: Minimal upstream reach



Emerging threats and various degrees of control/self-help:

- Cybersecurity: Identification of assets, auditing, upstream supply chain procurement practices;
- Geomagnetic Disturbances: FERC Requirement for vulnerability assessments and mitigation to ensure steady state performance for "one in 100 year event";
- Electro-magnetic Pulses: FERC declines to issue standard due to need for additional analysis of appropriate protection measures;
- Natural events: Super-storms Sandy and Irma, drought conditions etc.









Today's Latest Discussion:

Resilience: An actionable goal or a new fad?



Reliability vs. Resilience

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- **Reliability**: "Operating the elements of the bulk-power system] within equipment and electric system thermal, voltage, and stability limits so that instability, uncontrolled separation, or cascading failures of such system will not occur as a result of a sudden disturbance, including a cybersecurity incident, or unanticipated failure of system elements"
- Resilience: "Resilience is preparing for, operating through and quickly recovering from a high-impact, low-frequency event"

Policy Development in an Increasingly Electric Dependent World

Resilience Planning

- What to plan for? Actionable threats? Remote threats?
- The line between prudent planning vs. gold plating?
- Differing customer requirements on resilience
 - Is the goal to empower customers through self-help vs. utility offerings?
 - Should resilience be targeted to certain customers?
 - Re-define universal service to 'raise the bar' for all or focus on customers willing to pay for more 'resilient' service?
 - Free riders given the interconnected nature of the grid?





An Added Complication: Who Decides?



• States:

- State Energy Policies: Governors/legislators
- State PUCs
- State Emergency Management agencies?

• FERC

- Department of Homeland Security/FEMA
- Department of Energy
- Congress
- International Consensus











Avoiding The Quagmire Of Inaction

"Hanging in mid-air": a dangerous place









LET'S TALK...

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